

by the House in the last Congress, but it did not become law. It is without controversy, and I urge Members to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1883.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 1883, the Senate bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

LAKE CHELAN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1683) to transfer administrative jurisdiction over part of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Agriculture for inclusion in the Wenatchee National Forest.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1683

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS, LAKE CHELAN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA AND WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST, WASHINGTON.

(a) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.—

(1) LAKE CHELAN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.—The boundary of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area, established by section 202 of Public Law 90-544 (16 U.S.C. 90a-1), is hereby adjusted to exclude a parcel of land and waters consisting of approximately 88 acres, as depicted on the map entitled "Proposed Management Units, North Cascades, Washington", numbered NP-CAS-7002A, originally dated October 1967, and revised July 13, 1994.

(2) WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST.—The boundary of the Wenatchee National Forest is hereby adjusted to include the parcel of land and waters described in paragraph (1).

(3) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map referred to in paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the superintendent of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area and the Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and in the office of the Chief of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

(b) TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION.—Administrative jurisdiction over Fed-

eral land and waters in the parcel covered by the boundary adjustments in subsection (a) is transferred from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Agriculture, and the transferred land and waters shall be managed by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the laws and regulations pertaining to the National Forest System.

(c) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND.—For purposes of section 7 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-9), the boundaries of the Wenatchee National Forest, as adjusted by subsection (a), shall be considered to be the boundaries of the Wenatchee National Forest as of January 1, 1965.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH).

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, S. 1683, introduced by Senator GORTON, was amended by the Senate and is now identical to House Resolution 3520, which was introduced by my colleague, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DOC HASTINGS). I would like to commend the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) for his excellent work to complete this commonsense legislation.

The House passed H.R. 3520 on June 9 by voice vote under suspension of the rules, but because the Senate subsequently passed the Gorton bill, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) has now asked us to approve Senate bill 1683 to expedite its enactment into law.

This legislation will provide relief to a private landowner whose property is within the boundaries of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area, which is managed by the National Park Service and the Wenatchee National Forest. It will transfer lands from the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area to the Wenatchee National Forest to consolidate management of the Federal lands under one agency, and alleviate the natural confusion caused by working with dual jurisdictions.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes and fulfill a long-standing commitment made by the National Park Service to this private landowner, Mr. George Wall. I strongly support this measure. I applaud the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) for his hard work to ensure the passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation. It deals with one of the most beautiful areas in our country. My daughter Cathy has a large photo of this lake hanging in her room in our house in Texas as a memory of pleasant time spent at a church camp on the banks of this lake.

This particular piece of legislation is noncontroversial. It was considered in our Committee on Resources. It addresses, as the gentleman indicated, the boundaries of the lake. Currently a private landowner is subject to dual jurisdiction by the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service. This will resolve that. I appreciate our colleague, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) for bringing this to the attention of the House.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by offering my thanks to the Chairman, Mrs. CHENOWETH, for her assistance with this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support S. 1683, which adjusts the boundaries of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area and the Wenatchee National Forest. This is a non-controversial measure that is supported by both the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service. Furthermore, S. 1683 is identical to my bill, H.R. 3520, that passed the House unanimously in June.

Mr. Speaker, this boundary adjustment legislation will consolidate the property of Mr. George Wall within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service. Because of a drafting error in the original legislation creating the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area in 1968, a portion of Mr. Wall's property was included in the Area despite assurances that his property would remain entirely within the Wenatchee National Forest. This error has resulted in needless confusion among these agencies and Mr. Wall regarding land use policy in the area.

In a May 1995 letter to Senator SLADE GORTON the Park Service wrote that this boundary adjustment would "contribute to enhancement of public service as well as more efficient administration of federal lands." Not only will this legislation ease an administrative burden on the agencies involved, it will also honor a 30 year old commitment made to Mr. Wall by the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Wall is now in poor health and his family has asked that we complete our consideration of this legislation as quickly as possible. Because this bill is identical to the legislation which passed the House by a voice vote on June 9, 1998, I ask my colleagues to support S. 1683 and avoid further delays in enacting this non-controversial measure.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1683.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within

which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous matter on S.1683, the Senate bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Idaho?

There was no objection.

□ 1230

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER MEDAL OF VALOR ACT OF 1998

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R.4090) to provide for a national medal for public safety officers who act with extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF MEDAL.

The President may award, and present in the name of Congress, a Medal of Valor of appropriate design, with ribbons and appurtenances, to a public safety officer who is cited by the Attorney General, on the advice of the Medal of Valor Review Board, for extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty.

SEC. 3. BOARD.

(a) BOARD.—There is established a permanent Medal of Valor Review Board (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Board"). The Board shall—

(1) be composed of 11 members appointed in accordance with subsection (b); and
(2) conduct its business in accordance with this Act.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The members of the Board shall be appointed as follows:

(A) 2 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(B) 2 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(C) 2 shall be appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate.

(D) 2 shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(E) 3 shall be appointed by the President, one of whom shall have substantial experience in firefighting, one of whom shall have substantial experience in law enforcement, and one of whom shall have substantial experience in emergency services.

(2) PERSONS ELIGIBLE.—The members of the Board shall be individuals who have knowledge or expertise, whether by experience or training, in the field of public safety.

(3) TERM.—The term of a Board member is 4 years.

(4) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the membership of the Board shall not affect the powers of the Board and shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(5) OPERATION OF THE BOARD.—

(A) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet at the call of the Chairman and not less than twice each year. The initial meeting of the Board shall be conducted not later than 30 days after the appointment of the last member of the Board.

(B) QUORUM; VOTING; RULES.—A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum to conduct business, but the Board may establish a lesser quorum for conducting hearings scheduled by the Board. The Board may establish by majority vote any other rules for the conduct of the Board's business, if such rules

are not inconsistent with this Act or other applicable law.

(c) DUTIES.—The Board shall select candidates as recipients of the Medal of Valor from among those applications received by the National Medal Office. Not more often than once each year, the Board shall present to the Attorney General the name or names of those it recommends as Medal of Valor recipients. In a given year, the Board is not required to choose any names, but is limited to a maximum number of 6 recipients. The Board shall set an annual timetable for fulfilling its duties under this Act.

(d) HEARINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board may hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, administer such oaths, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Board considers advisable to carry out its duties.

(2) WITNESS EXPENSES.—Witnesses requested to appear before the Board may be paid the same fees as are paid to witnesses under section 1821 of title 28, United States Code. The per diem and mileage allowances for witnesses shall be paid from funds appropriated to the Board.

(e) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The Board may secure directly from any Federal department or agency such information as the Board considers necessary to carry out its duties. Upon the request of the Board, the head of such department or agency may furnish such information to the Board.

(f) INFORMATION TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.—The Board shall not disclose any information which may compromise an ongoing law enforcement investigation or is otherwise required by law to be kept confidential.

SEC. 4. BOARD PERSONNEL MATTERS.

(a) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), each member of the Board shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which such member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Board.

(2) All members of the Board who serve as officers or employees of the United States, a State, or a local government, shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for those services.

(b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—The members of the Board shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of service for the Board.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act:

(1) PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER.—The term "Public Safety Officer" has the same meaning given that term in section 1204 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968.

(2) STATE.—The term "State" means each of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney General such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

SEC. 7. OFFICE.

There is established within the Department of Justice a national medal office. The office shall staff the Medal of Valor Review Board and establish criteria and procedures for the submission of recommendations of nominees for the Medal of Valor.

SEC. 8. CONFORMING REPEAL.

Section 15 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 is repealed.

SEC. 9. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.

The Attorney General shall consult with the Institute of Heraldry within the Department of Defense regarding the design and artistry of the Medal of Valor. The Attorney General shall also consider suggestions received by the Department of Justice regarding the design of the medal, including those made by persons not employed by the Department.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, last month we honored two men whose sacrifices right here in the Capitol were both shocking and supreme. Our two heroic Capitol Hill police officers, Detective John Gibson and Officer Jacob Chestnut, could never have imagined that tragic Friday morning that a violent gunman would take away their lives and destroy their families' dreams.

The terrible truth is that each and every day a police officer dons that familiar blue uniform could be that officer's last day. In our hearts we all know this, and yet we allow ourselves to be lulled into complacency and to forget. But the spouses and children of a police officer can never forget. They must live with the daily fear of the sudden and painful disintegration of their family.

When those greatest fears are realized and an officer is slain, we rightly honor him or her for that final sacrifice. Every year, we set aside one week to celebrate the lives and work of police officers slain, and we forever pay tribute to their memories by adding their name to the memorial wall.

But is that enough? I believe that we can and should do more. In the military, we recognize many acts of heroism and valor with special medals and ribbons. As we are all aware, the Nation's highest combat medal, the Medal of Honor, is given to a member of the military who has demonstrated "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty."

The American public knows of this prestigious honor and of the many others bestowed by the military, for example the Purple Heart and the Silver Star. Yet we do not offer a similarly high honor to public safety officers.

Mr. Speaker, today I bring before the House H.R. 4090, the "Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act." It is long past due for the Federal Government to